(b) if so, by when it would be done and what would be the proportion of profit?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gainful price for farmers' produce

†3515. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide attractive and gainful price to farmers, based on the total cost/expenditure on their produce;

(b) if so, the details of action taken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices for 25 major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations whenever required, through the public and cooperative agencies. The Government decides on the minimum support prices for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) and other factors considered important in price fixation. While making its recommendations, the CACP considers a number of factors and cost of production is the most important factor. The cost of production covers not only paid-out costs but also imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour for which the farmers do not incur cash expenses. The minimum support prices fixed by the Government not only cover cost of production but also a reasonable margin as an incentive to the farmers to invest and improve production and productivity.

Purchase of Air Conditioners at IASRI

3516. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) under indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently furnished his office room with new Air Conditioners / Carpet etc. whereas the room was already having these facilities in good / working condition;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the amount spent on these, item-wise and the year of purchase of Director's old air conditioners;

(c) the details of air conditioners provided to other staff, with details of their scale of pay, designation etc. as on June 30, 2001;

(d) whether any criteria, was followed in providing the above facilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir. Director, IASRI's office has not been entirely refurnished. However, facilities which had become ten years old have been replaced with more functional ones.

(b) Item-wise amount spent on purchase of carpet and Air Conditioners.

	Item	Amount
(i)	AC-2001	Rs. 64,348/-including taxes
(ii)	Carpet	Rs. 39,127/-including taxes
(iii)	Old ACs of Director's room were purchased in 1991	

(c) 87 air conditioners have been provided in other rooms of the institute. Details of scale of pay, designation as on June 30, 2001 are presented in Statement . (*See* below)

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The criteria followed in providing Air Conditioners is as per functional necessity of common importance such as Laboratories, Library, Guest House, Auditorium, Committee Rooms, Telephone Exchange (EPABS) and Heads. At many of these places, there are very important databases on computer which need proper preservation. This principle has been consistently followed.

Statement

Details of ACs in various buildings of IASRI

OLD BUILDING

Section / Officer / Lab	Scale of Pay	No. of ACs
Guest House	—	04
Photo Lab	—	02
Remote Sensing Lab	—	02
Head, Remote Sensing	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Forecasting Lab	—	01
SSM Lab	—	01
Head, Forecasting	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Head, SSM	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Head, Finance & Accounts	Rs. 8000-13500	01
Wool Product Estimation	Rs. 12000-18300	01
		15
TRAINING-CUM-ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK		
GROUND FLOOR		
TELEPHONE EXCHANGE		02
FIRST FLOOR		
Director's Office	Rs. 16400-22400	03
Committee Room (Small)	—	02
Committee Room (Big)	—	03
RCMU Lab.	—	01
Head, Biometrics	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Head, Econometrics	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Head, Design of Experiment	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Professor(Training)	Rs.16400-22400	01
Head (Administration)	Rs. 12000-16500	01
SECOND FLOOR		
Auditorium	—	04
CAS Lab	—	04
Econometrics Lab	—	01
Biometrics Lab	—	01
Design Lab	—	01
		28
COMPUTER BUILDING		
Library	—	03
Jt. Director	Rs. 16400-22400	02
Auditorium	—	07

Section / Officer / Lab	Scale of Pay	No. of ACs
PIMS Lab (R. No. 101)	—	01
102 NISAGE Lab		01
103 Computer Lab		01
Computer Scientist Lab (106) (Formerly Tape Lab)		02
Agri. Res. Info. System Lab (111-A)		03
Server Room (111-B)		04
NATP Lab (112)		06
Head, CA (114)	Rs. 16400-22400	01
Bio-Informatics Lab (118)	—	01
Revolving Fund Scheme (123)		01
Computer Application Lab (129)		04
Advance Comp. Lab (130)		04
Data Entry Lab (131)		02
Kept in Store (unserviceable)		01
		44
GRAND TOTAL:		87

Technology Mission on Coconut

3517. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a Technology Mission on Coconut;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in that regard;

(c) by which date the Technology Mission would be set up; and

(d) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft report of the proposed Technology Mission on Coconut to be implemented through Coconut Development Board in major coconut producing States was thoroughly discussed in a meeting with all stake holders in the coconut industry including representatives of coconut producing State. The participating State Governments were requested to give their suggestions, if any, for further modification. Suggestions / proposals have been received from Government of Kerala.

(c) The Technology Mission on Coconut is expected to be approved within three months.